

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 5, 8-15, 16 and 17 are amended for clarity.

Applicants thank Supervisory Examiner Smith for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives, Mr. Paul Tsou and Mr. Daniel Tucker, during the May 25 personal interview. The substance of the personal interview is incorporated in the remarks below.

Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claims 2 and 5-17 contain allowable subject matter. However, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims 1-18 are allowable.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-4 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Aoki et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0122568). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Aoki discloses that each of the cross-sectional form members 14 are held in space above a first substrate by a holding member 30. However, as agreed to during the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that Aoki does not disclose or suggest releasing the cross-sectional form member from the holding member after the bonding/transferring and laminating, as recited in claim 1.

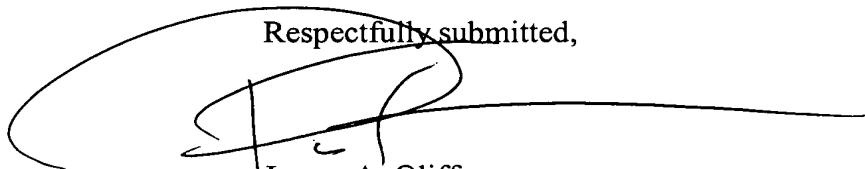
As disclosed in paragraphs [0134] and [0138] and Figs. 7(a) and 7(b), Aoki discloses separating two-dimensional photonic crystal plate 14a from bridges 32, picking up the two-dimensional photonic crystal plate 14a using it on a first layer. Thus, Aoki released the two-dimensional photonic crystal plate 14a from the bridges 32 before laminating the photonic crystal plates together. Accordingly, Aoki does not disclose or suggest releasing the cross-sectional form member from the holding member after the bonding/transferring and laminating, as recited in claim 1.

In view of the above, Aoki does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1. Claim 3-4 and 18 depend from claim 1. Thus, Aoki does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1, 3, 4 and 18. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully solicited.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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